

BUILDINGENERGY BOSTON

Reaching Net Zero Carbon through Building Energy Codes

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Curated by Anna Heath and Emily Dillon

**Northeast Sustainable Energy Association (NESEA)
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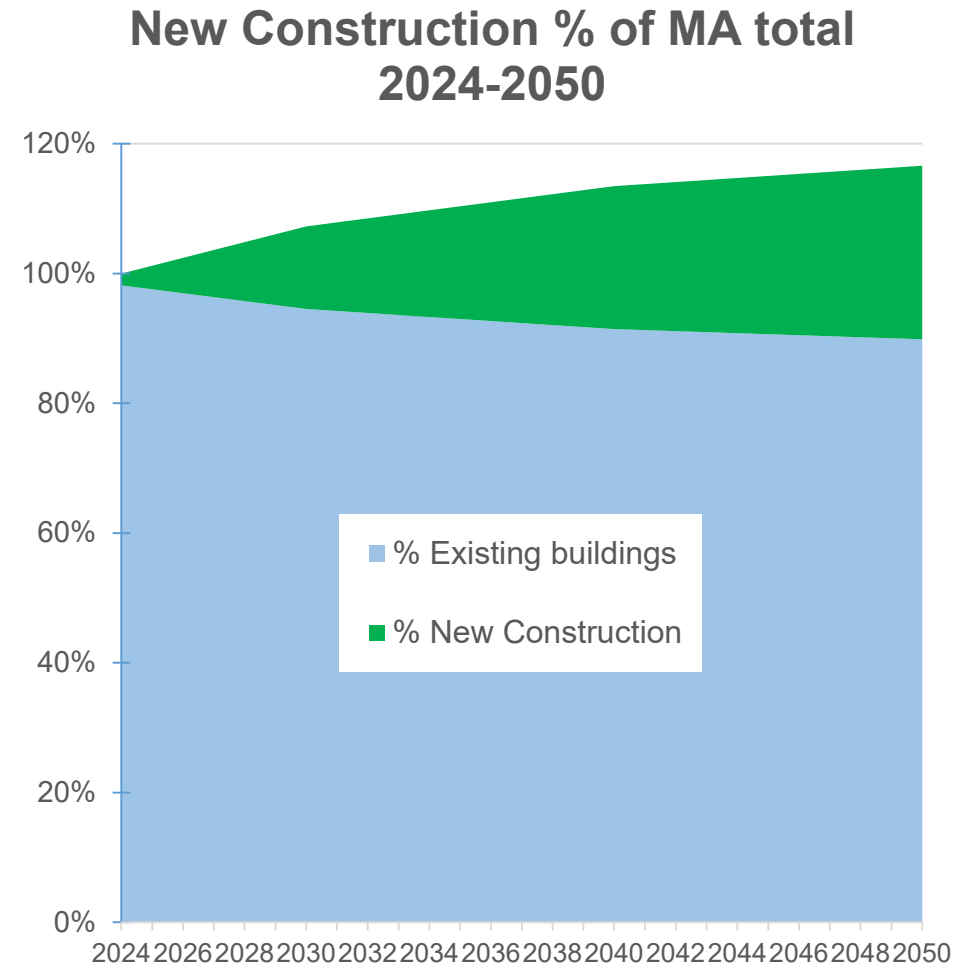
Agenda

- Policy context
- IECC 2021
- IECC 2024
- New York State
- Massachusetts



Building Energy Code role in reducing emissions

- Building code is the primary policy impacting new buildings.
- New buildings (built after 2023) ~27% of all building space by 2050
- New buildings are easiest and cheapest to make 2050-compliant
- New construction market helps drive cost reductions in building retrofits.
- 2030: Massachusetts legal limit is at least 50% reduction in GHG from 1990



Policy Goals for Building Energy Code

- Low cost GHG emissions reductions
 - Start with Energy Efficiency
 - All cost-effective required by 2008 Green Communities Act for Stretch code
 - Incentivize Electrification of remaining heating load
 - Mitigate peak electric loads to minimize grid infrastructure costs
- Plan for future infrastructure needs
 - EV ready and Solar ready across all energy codes
 - All-Electric ready pre-wiring in the Specialized code
- Allow Cities and Towns to adopt on their timeline
 - Base, Stretch and Specialized codes – 3 options for municipalities
 - Separate 10 community fossil-fuel free demonstration program

2021 IECC

Reasons for adopting 2021 IECC
Compliance Pathways
Air Leakage Testing

Reasons for adopting 2021 IECC

Energy Efficiency Improvements

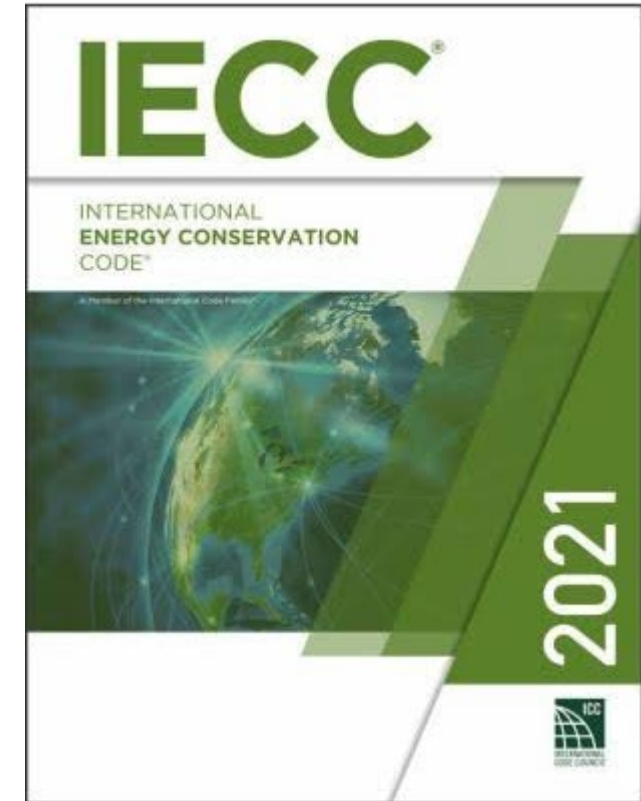
- 40% over 2006 IECC
- 9.4% more efficiency and 8.7% less GHG - 2018 IECC
- over 700 million metric tons (MMT) of Co2 savings

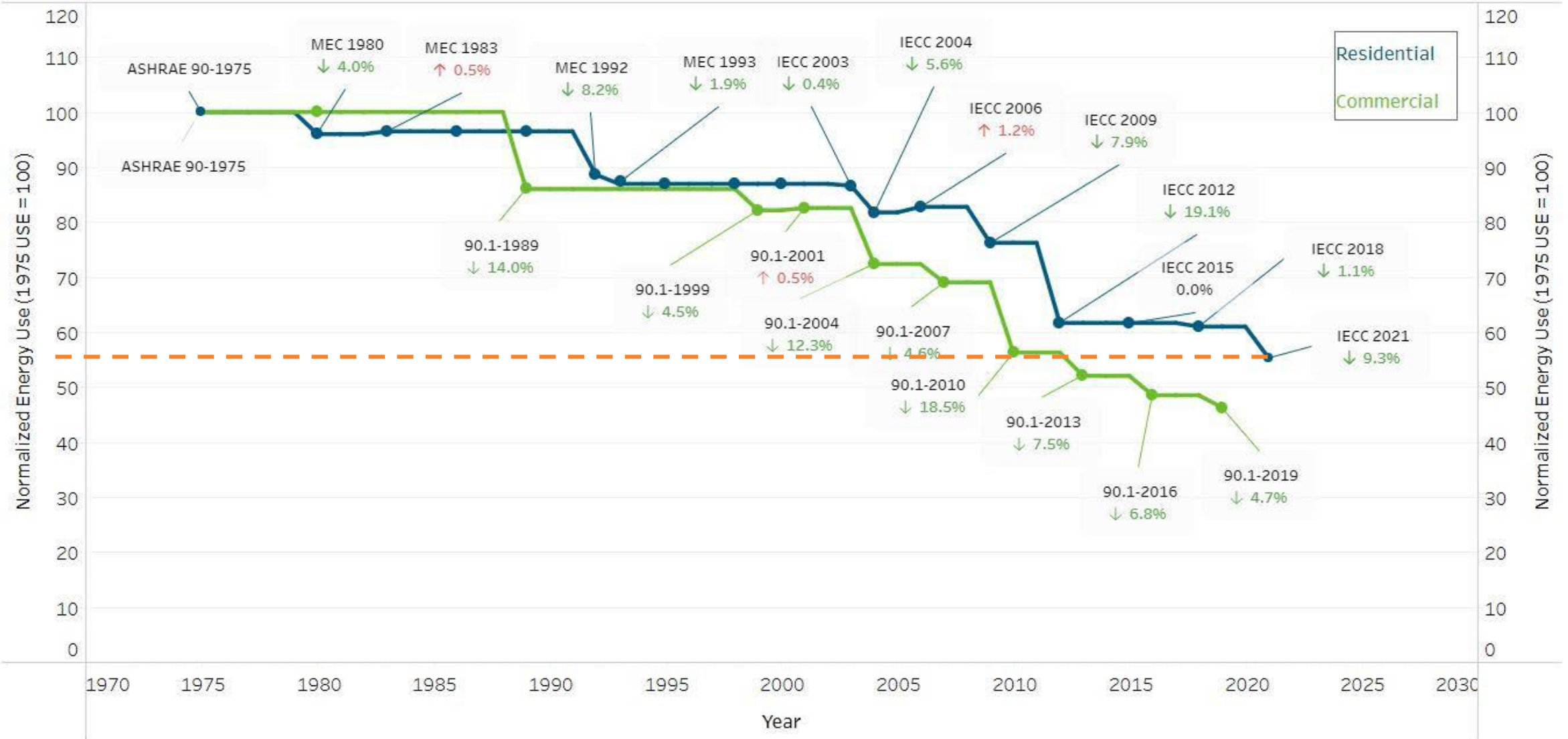
Resilience Benefits

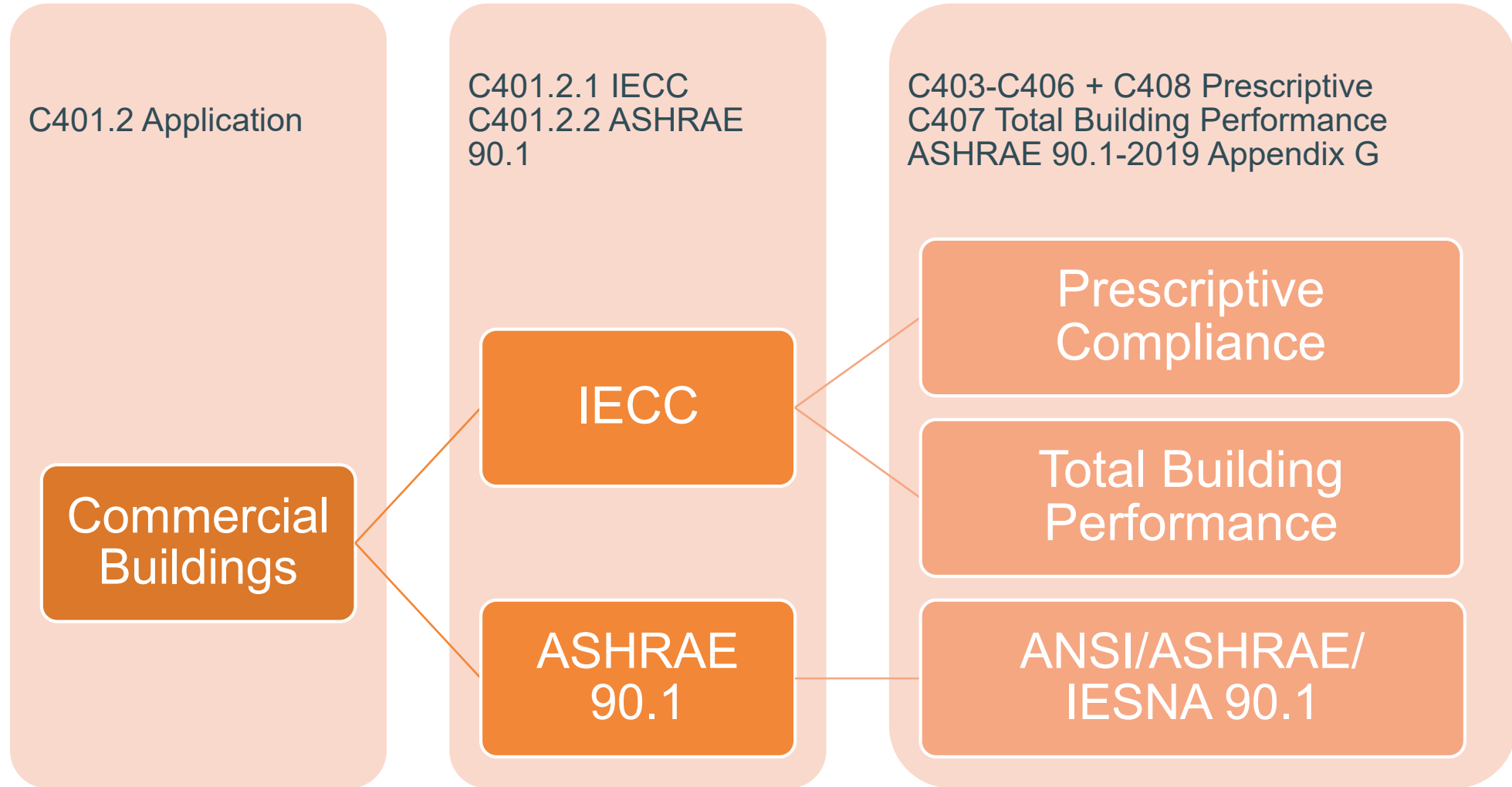
- Improving envelope efficiency saves lives during extreme temperature events.

Improve usability

- Encourage flexibility in design and construction
- provide clarification and improve the usability of the code







C403-C406 + C408 Prescriptive

Prescriptive
Compliance

C402 • Building Envelope Requirements

C403 • Building Mechanical Systems

C404 • Service Water Heating

C405 • Electrical Power and Lighting Systems

C406 • Additional Efficiency Requirements

C408 • Maintenance Information and system commissioning

C403-C406 + C408 Prescriptive

Prescriptive
Compliance

C402 • Building Envelope Requirements

C403 • Building Mechanical Systems

C404 • Service Water Heating

C405 • Electrical Power and Lighting Systems

C406 • Additional Efficiency Requirements

C408 • Maintenance Information and system commissioning

C403-C406 + C408 Prescriptive

Prescriptive
Compliance

10 credits calculated per Section C406
Tables C406.1(1) - C406.1(5)
based on the use of the building

NEW

C406

• Additional Efficiency Requirements

- 1. More efficient HVAC performance**
in accordance with Section C406.2
- 2. Reduced lighting power**
in accordance with Section C406.3
- 3. Enhanced lighting controls**
in accordance with Section C406.4
- 4. On-site supply of renewable energy**
in accordance with Section C406.5
- 5. Dedicated outdoor air system**
for certain HVAC equipment in accordance with Section C406.6
- 6. High-efficiency service water heating**
in accordance with Section C406.7

10 credits calculated per Section C406
Tables C406.1(1) - C406.1(5)
based on the use of the building

NEW

- 7. Enhanced envelope performance**
in accordance with Section C406.8
- 8. Reduced air infiltration**
in accordance with Section C406.9
- 9. Energy monitoring system**
where not required by Section C405.12,
in accordance with Section C406.10
- 10. Fault detection and diagnostics (FDD)**
where not required by Section C403.2.3, system in
accordance with Section C406.11
- 11. Efficient kitchen equipment**
in accordance with Section C406.12

C407 Total Building Performance

Total Building Performance

Table
C407.2

- Requirements of sections listed

Model

- Energy cost \leq 85% reference design

C407 Total Building Performance

Total Building
Performance

Units in Group R-2 buildings can comply through the Residential Energy Rating Index option (R406)

Table
C407.2

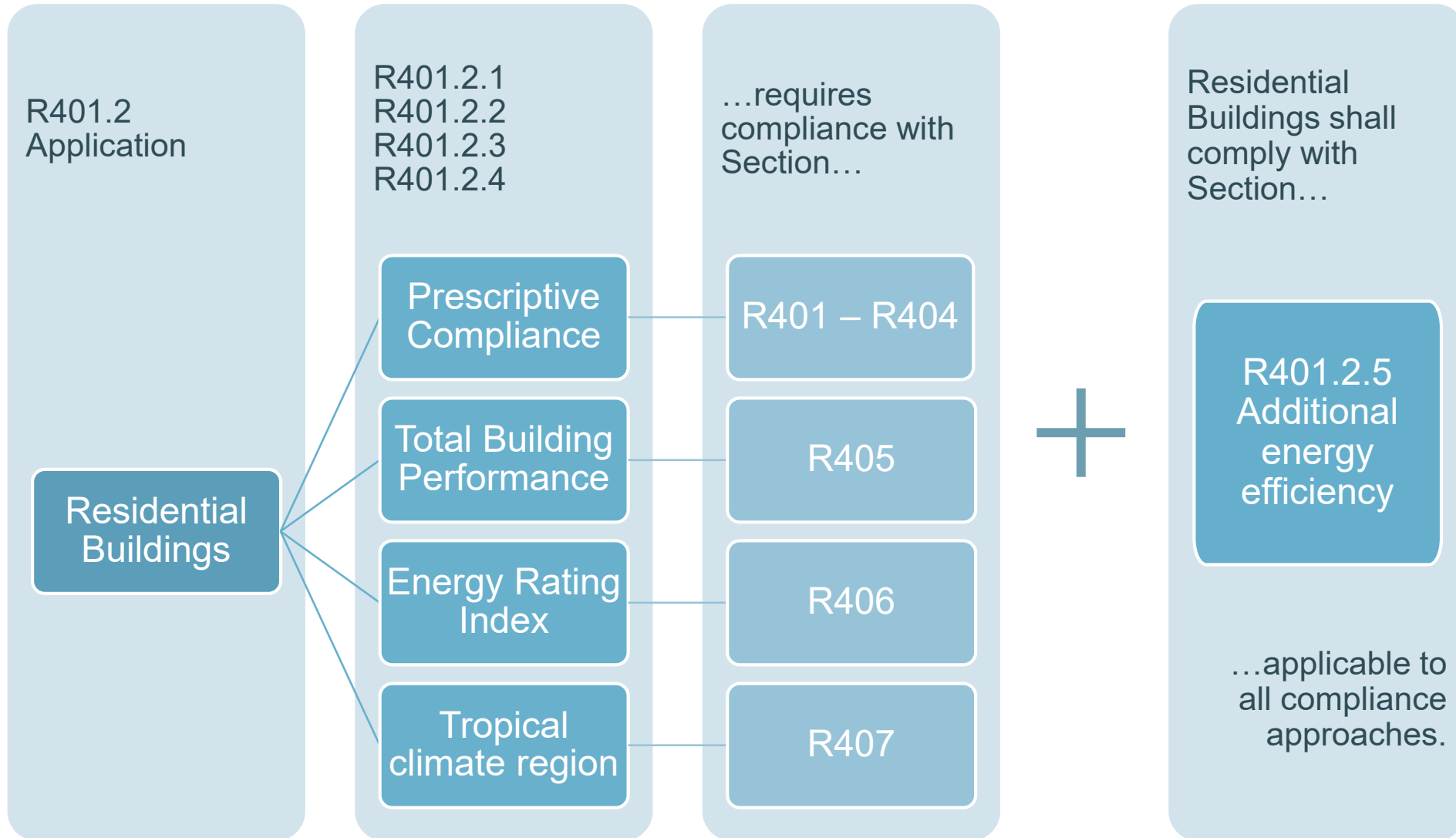
- Requirements of sections listed

Model

- Energy cost \leq 85% reference design

C407 Total Building Performance

Total Building
Performance

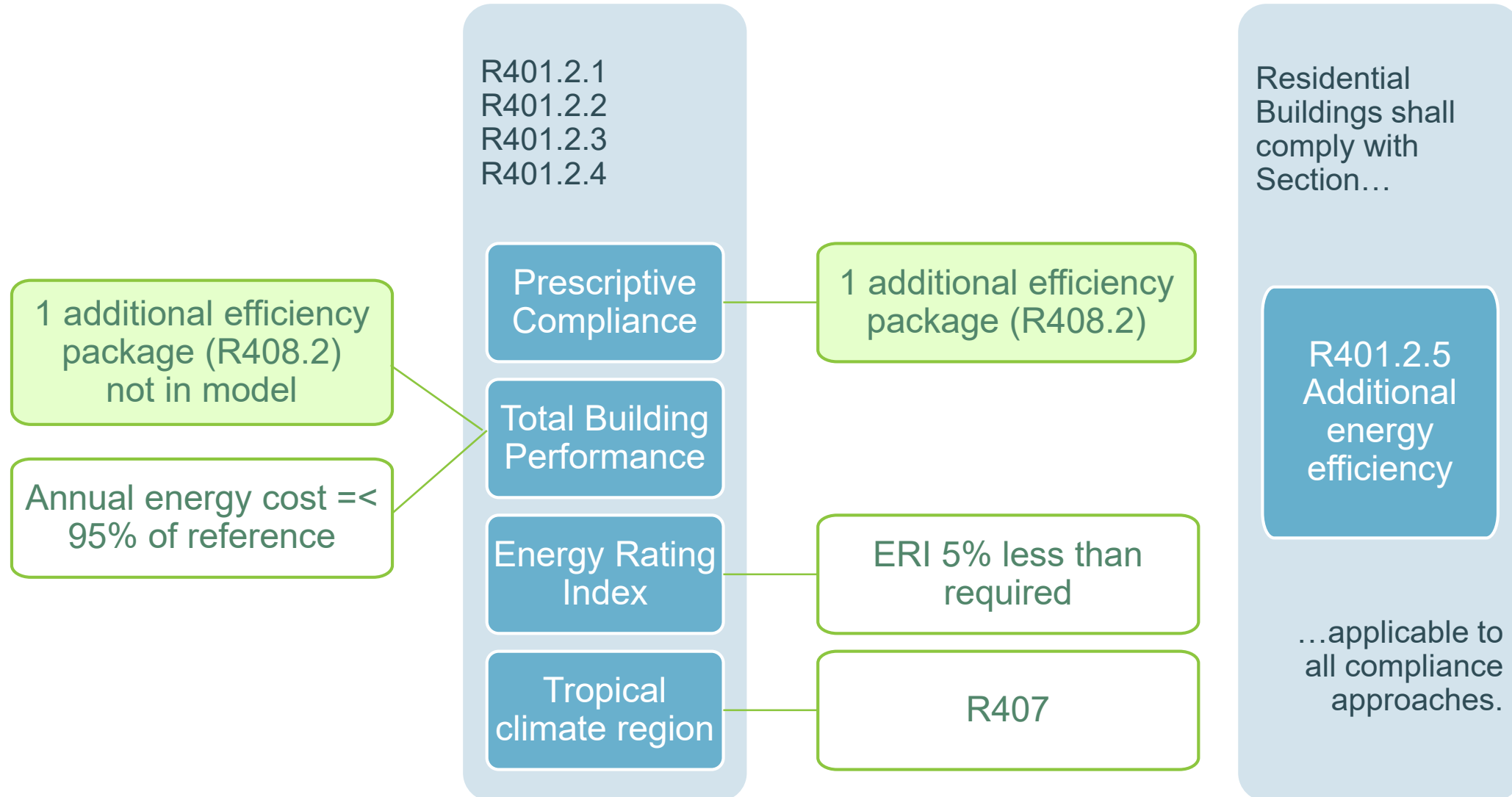


Residential Buildings shall comply with Section...

NEW

R401.2.5
Additional
energy
efficiency

...applicable to
all compliance
approaches.



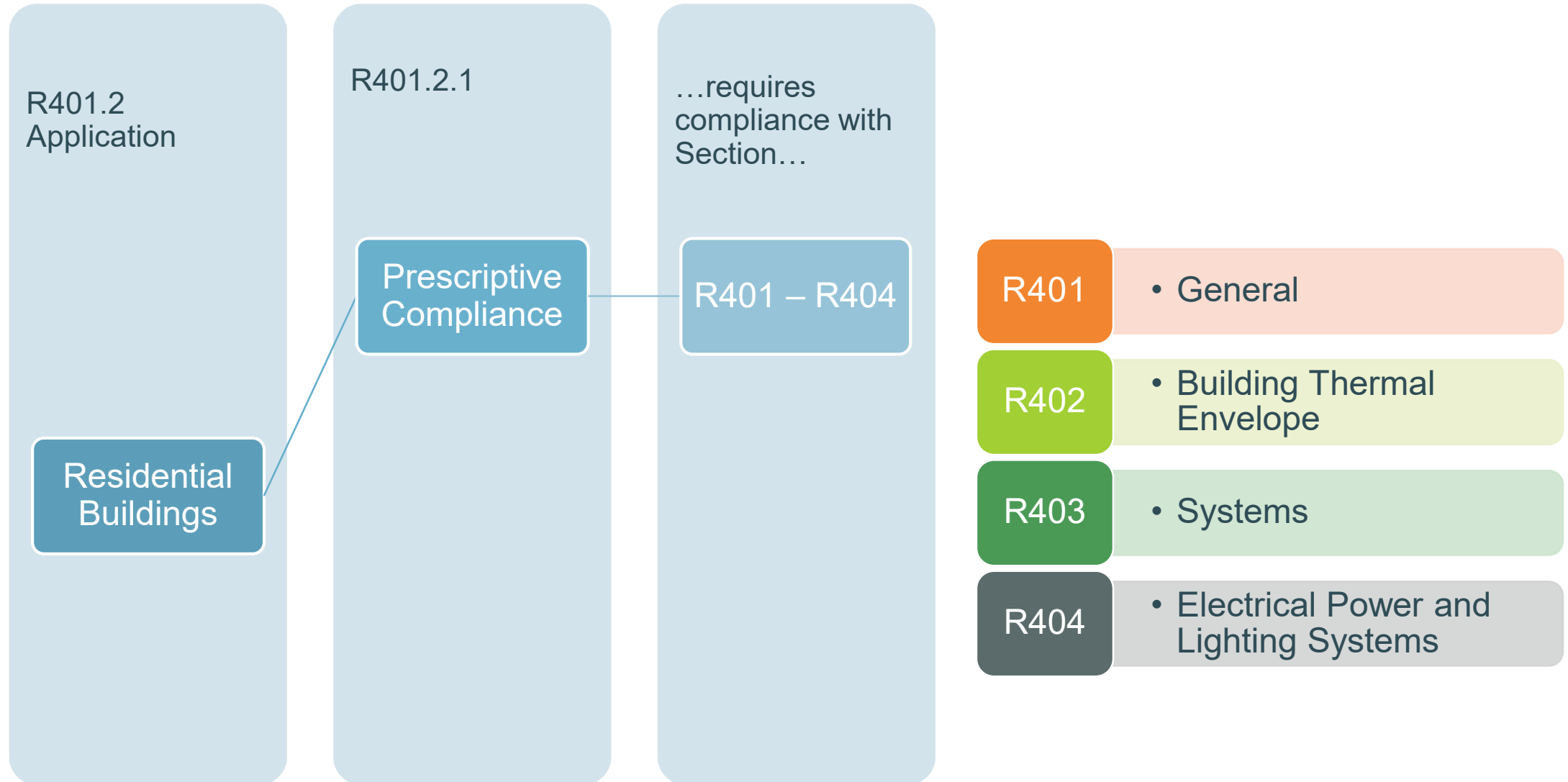
R408.2 Additional Efficiency Package Options

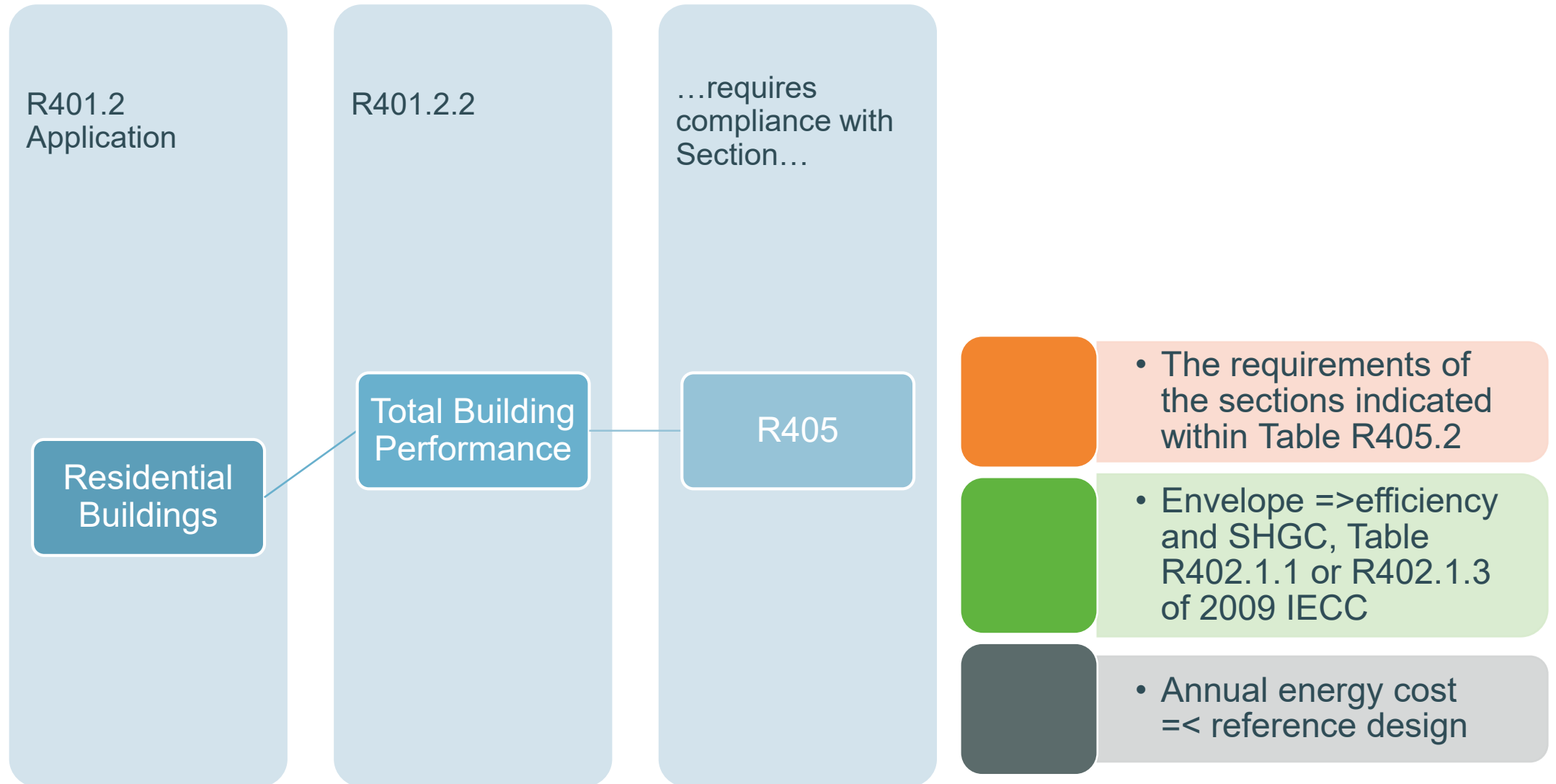
- R408.2.1 • Enhanced envelope performance option
- R408.2.2 • More efficient HVAC equipment performance option
- R408.2.3 • Reduced energy use in service water-heating option
- R408.2.4 • More efficient duct thermal distribution system option
- R408.2.5 • Improved air sealing and efficient ventilation system option

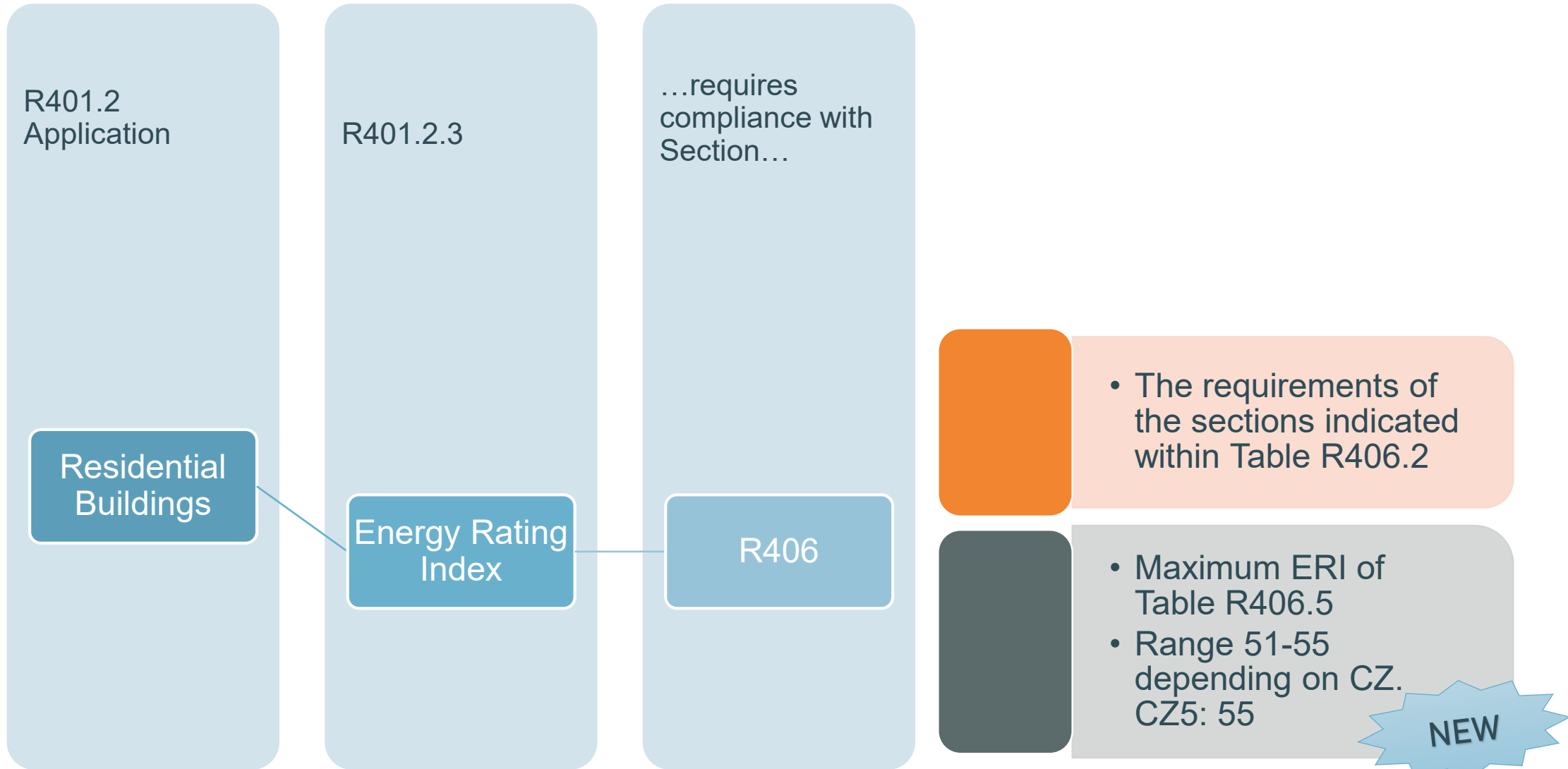
Residential Buildings shall comply with Section...

R401.2.5
Additional energy efficiency

...applicable to all compliance approaches.

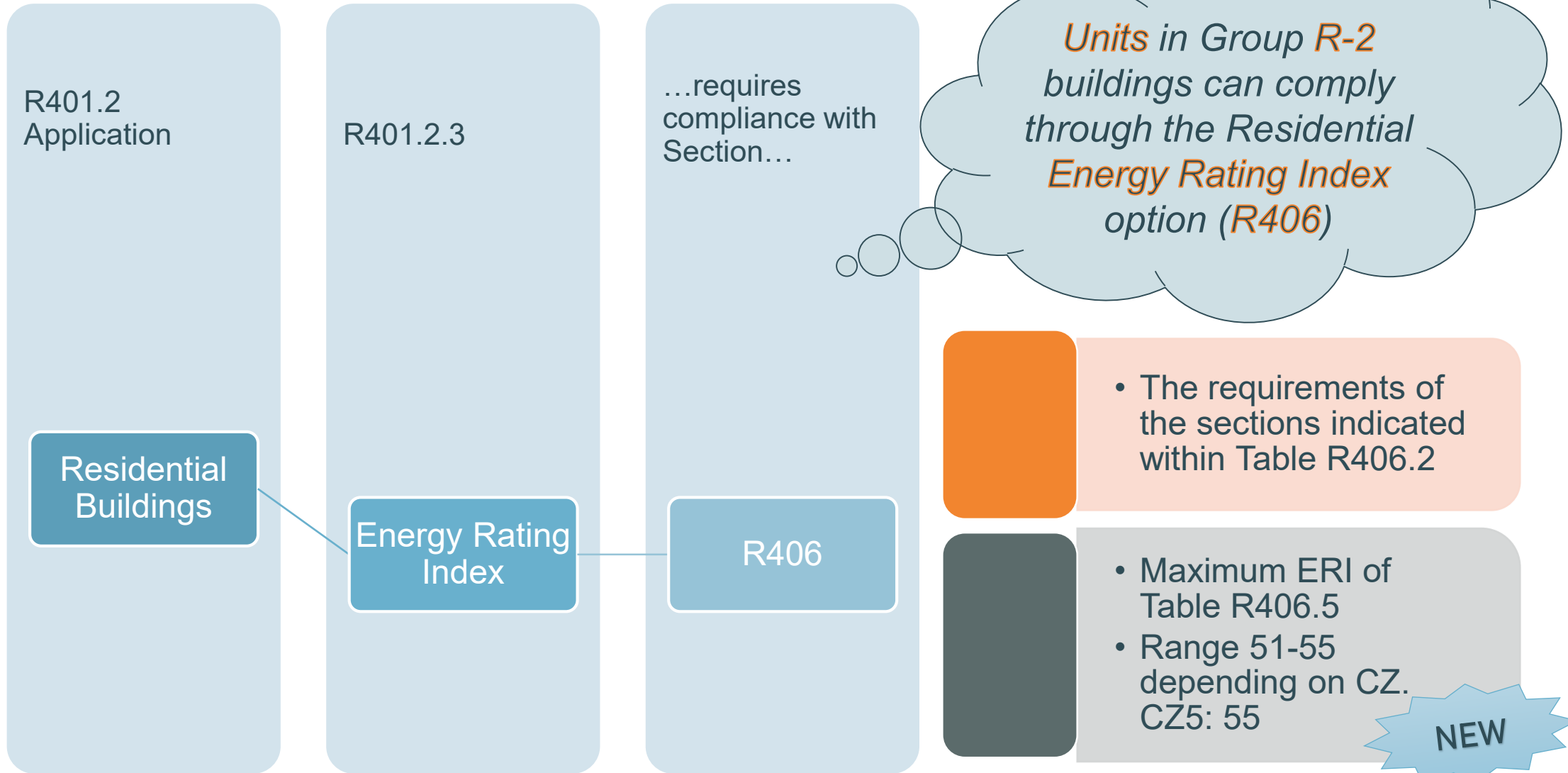






Compliance Pathways

Residential



Air Leakage Testing

Commercial

Three ways to comply with the Air Barrier Requirements



1

C402.5.2

Dwelling and sleeping unit enclosure testing

Except

CZ 2B, 3C and 5C

2

C402.5.3

Building thermal envelope testing

Except

CZ 2B, 3B, 3C, 5C
> 5,000 ft² in CZ 0B, 1, 2A, 4B, 4C
5,000 - 50,000 ft² in CZ 0A, 3A, 5B

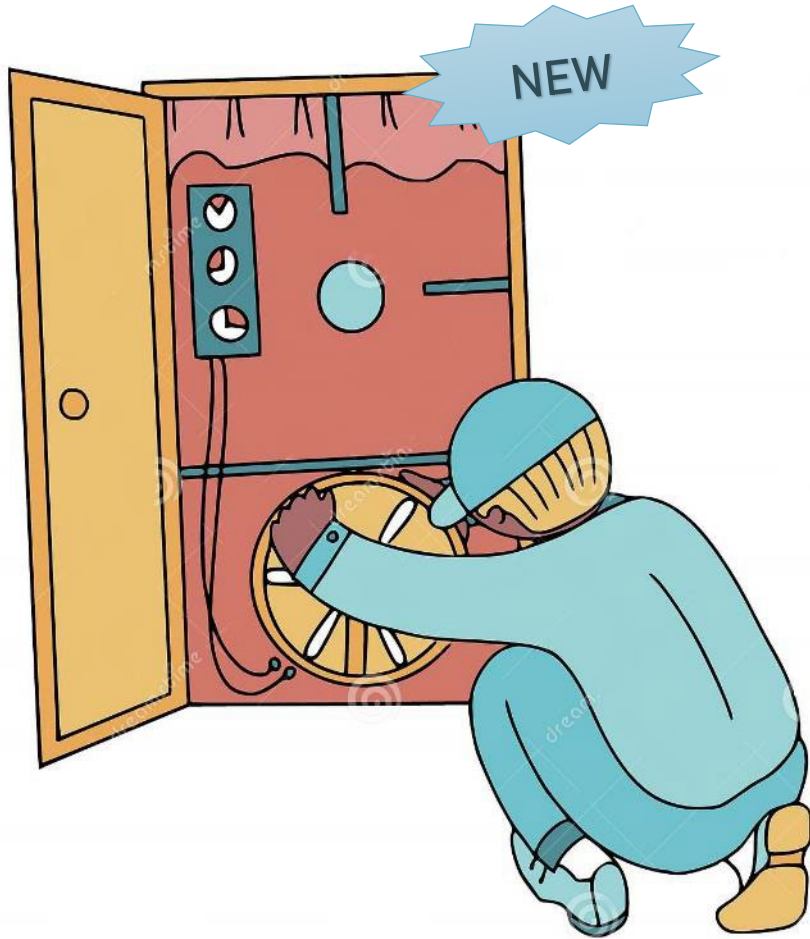
3

If no air barrier testing

C402.5.1.5 Building envelope performance verification

+

C402.5.1.3 Materials
OR
C402.5.1.4 Assemblies



1

C402.5.2

Dwelling and
sleeping unit
enclosure
testing

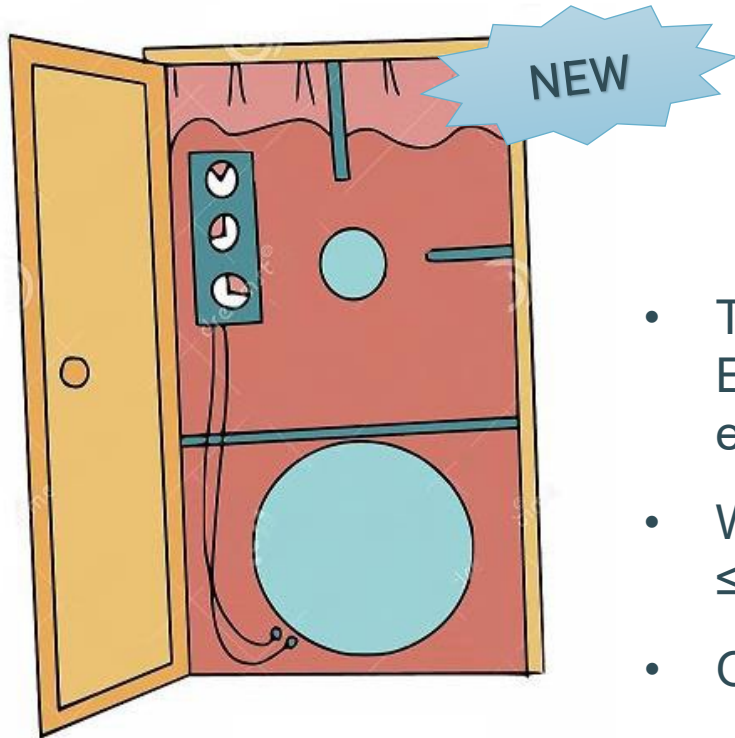
Except

CZ 2B, 3C and
5C

- ASTM E779 or E1827, ANSI 380, or equivalent
- air leakage is ≤ 0.30 cfm50/ft²
- weighted average of all results
- Dwelling units tested separately
- < 8 units – test all
- > 8 units – sampling allowed

Air Leakage Testing

Commercial



- Test in accordance with ASTM E779, E3158 or E1827, or equivalent method
- Whole-building air leakage ≤ 0.40 cfm75/ft²
- Or, portions of the building
- Requirements on how to select portions of the building

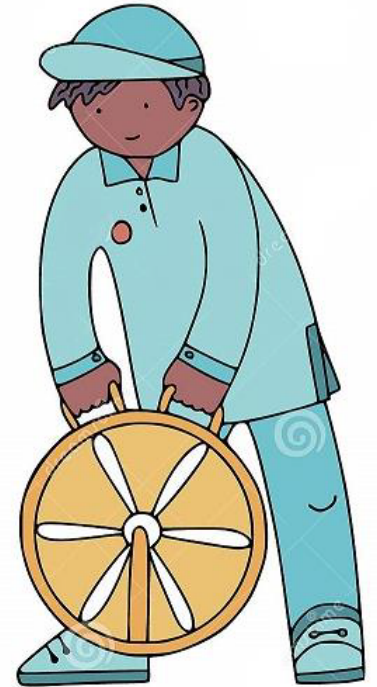
2

C402.5.3

Building thermal envelope testing

Except

CZ 2B, 3B, 3C, 5C
> 5,000 ft² in CZ 0B, 1, 2A, 4B, 4C
5,000 - 50,000 ft² in CZ 0A, 3A, 5B



2021 IECC Zero Code Appendix

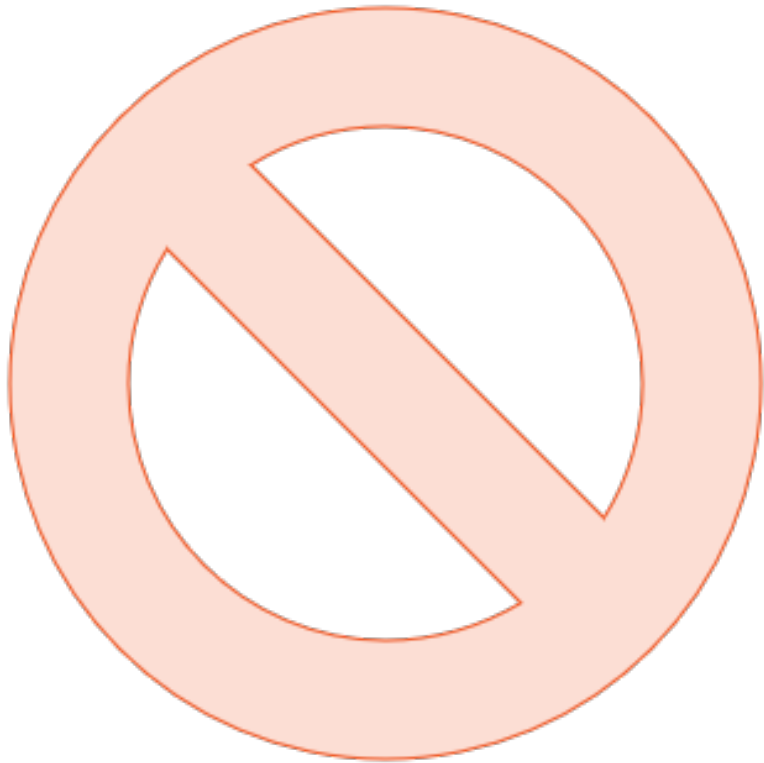
- Optional for jurisdictions to adopt
- Compliance with 2021 IECC required
- Enough on-site or off-site renewable energy to compensate for any energy consumption
- Residential Based on the ERI path with more efficiency required
- Commercial based on Architecture2030 ZERO Code

ZERO **CODE**TM

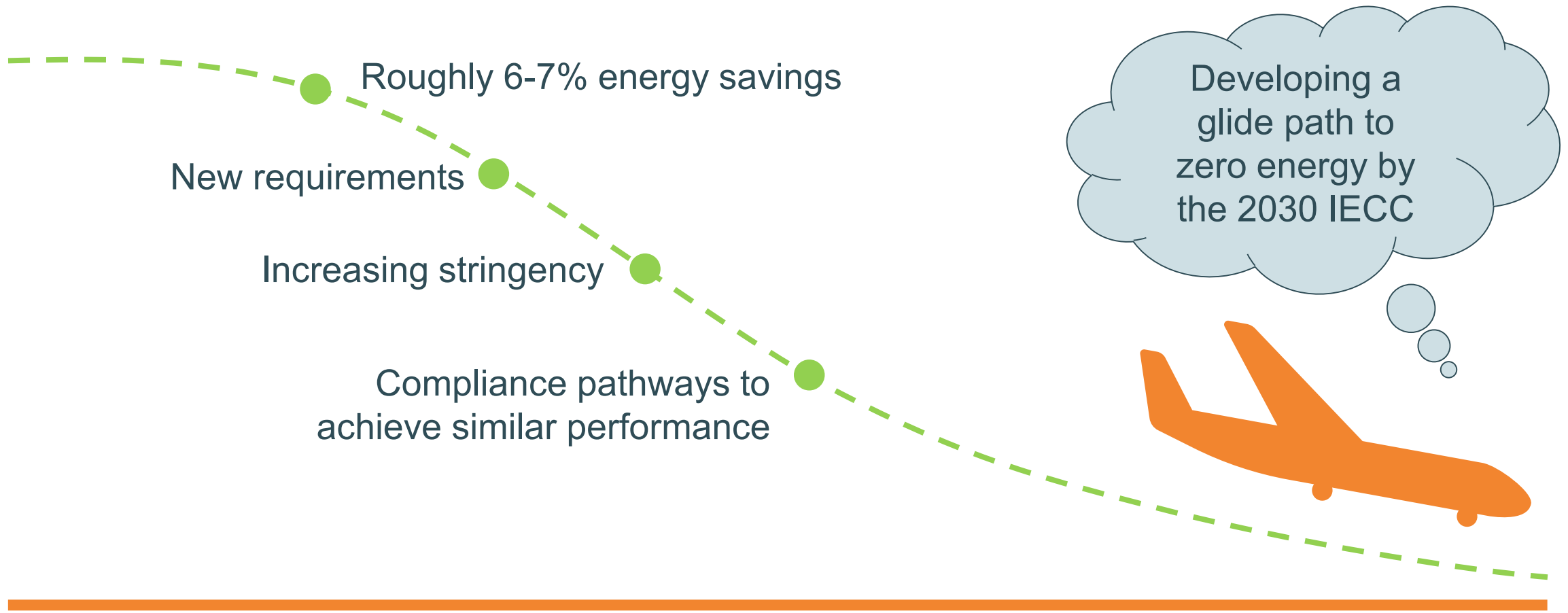
2024 IECC

Update on the Development
What's NOT in the 1st Draft
Progresses & Requirements





- A ban on the use of fossil fuels
- Embodied carbon accounting
- Mandate for solar PV
- Mandate for electric EV chargers



Compliance Pathways

Prescriptive Compliance

new point-based system

- 10 points
- Improve Additional Efficiency Package Options
- onsite renewable

Simulated Performance

Increased Energy Savings, more Flexibility

- Increased savings
- credit for HVAC, DHW efficiency, and duct location
- rigorous envelope backstop

ERI

more realistic targets

- more parity with other paths
- HERS Index in the low 50s
- on-site renewables, if a lower ERI is met

Areas of “readiness”



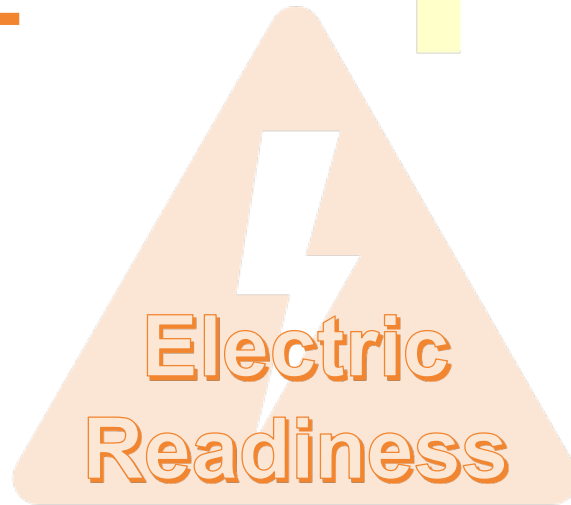
Required regardless of compliance path



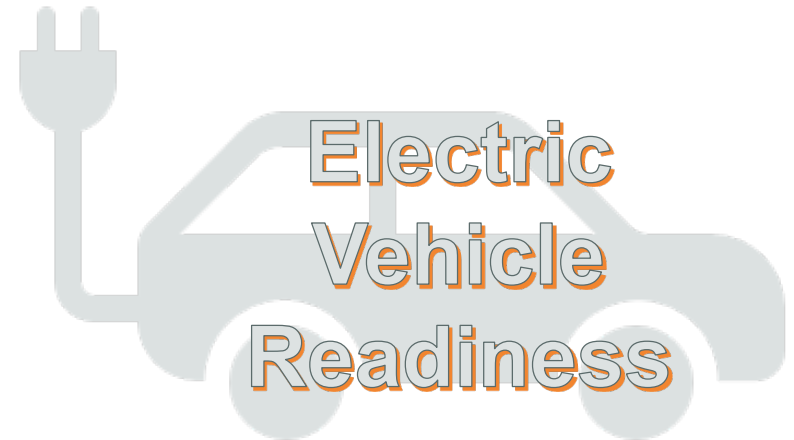
Solar
Readiness



Demand-
response
DHW



Electric
Readiness



Electric
Vehicle
Readiness

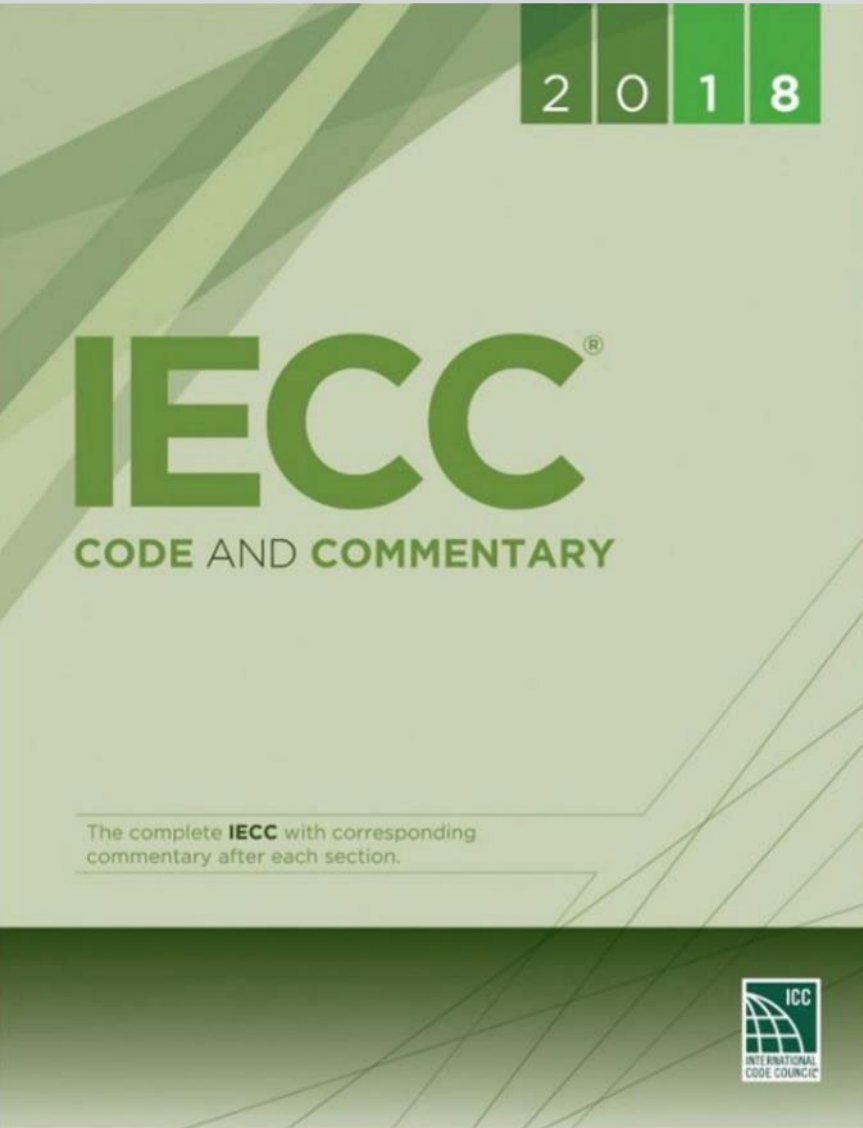


NYS

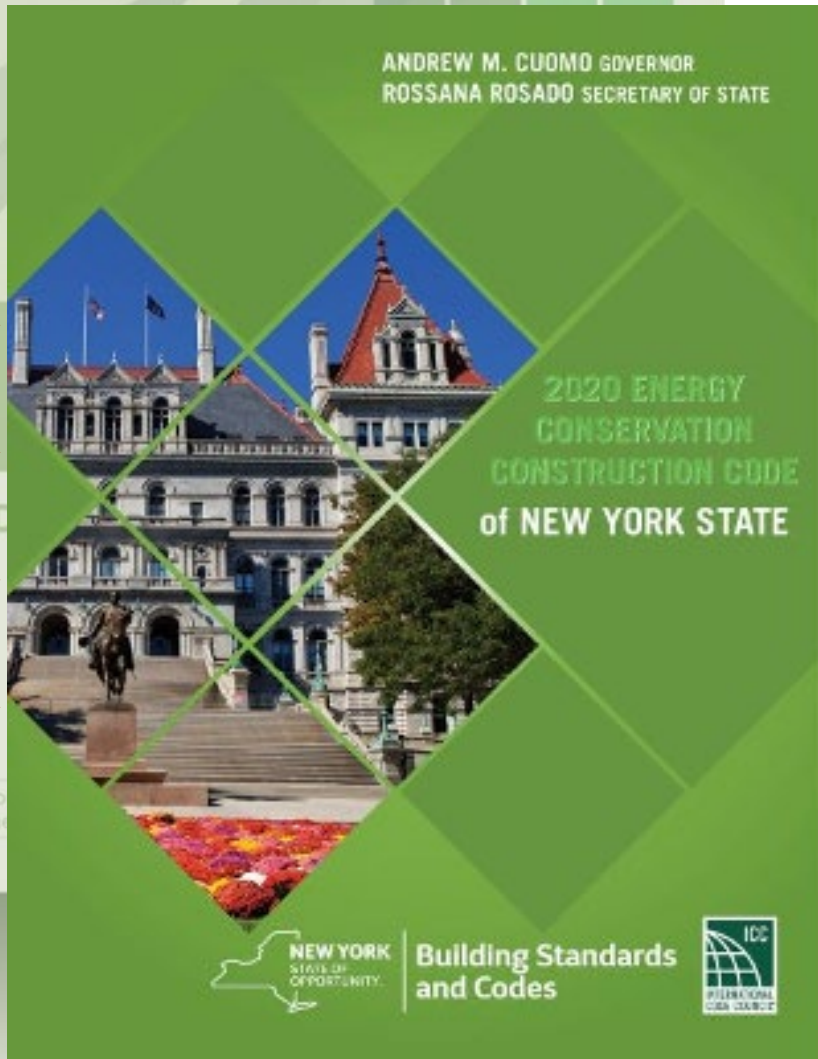
New York State Energy Code

New York State Stretch Code

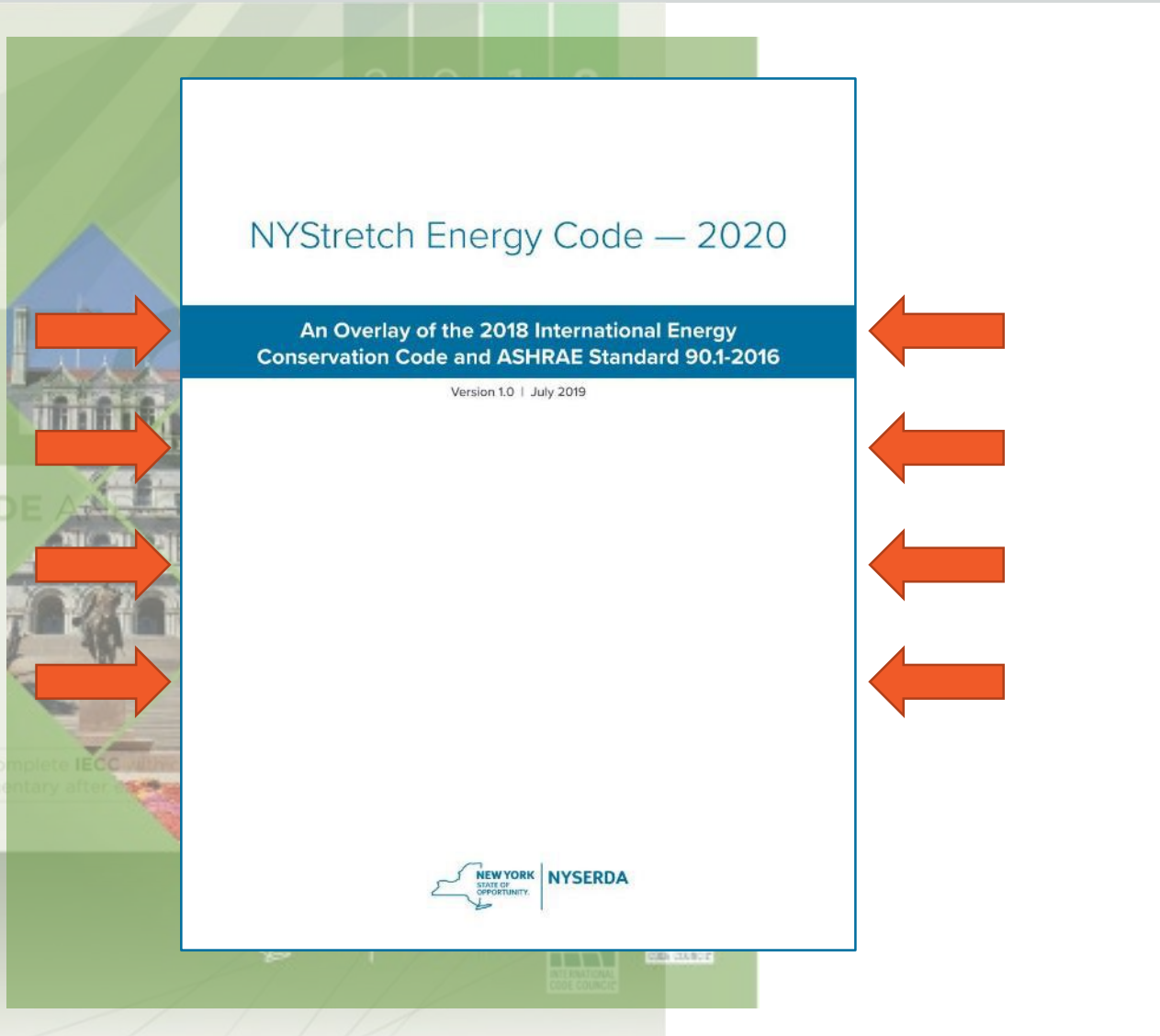
New York City Energy Code



- New York State currently adopts 2018 IECC



- New York State currently adopts 2018 IECC
- 2020 ECCCNY is based on
 - 2018 IECC and ASHRAE 90.1-2016 for Commercial
 - 2018 IECC for Residential
- Effective date: 05/12/2020
- Includes State Amendments
- Enforcement is mandatory statewide.



- NYStretch-2020 is an overlay of the 2018 IECC and ASHRAE 90.1-2016. Supplement of the 2020 ECCCCNYS.
- Improve State by roughly 10%
- Developed by NYSERDA
- For voluntary adoption by local governments as a more stringent local energy code
- Benefits:
 - Readily adoptable, enforceable language, familiar to building departments
 - Intended to be about one cycle ahead of the current State Energy Code
 - Cost-effective and regionally appropriate



- 2020 NYCECC adopted as Local Law 048 of 2020.
- Based on 2020 ECCCNY
- Aligns with NYStretch-2020:
 - Continuous insulation for balconies and parapets
 - Supply ventilation with ERV/HRV for homes and multifamily 3 stories or less
 - More efficient lighting power reqs.
 - Additional lighting controls
 - ++thermal envelope reqs.
 - Source energy as a metric
 - Efficient service water heating distribution system design
 - Whole building energy monitoring
 - Efficiency for elevators and commercial kitchen equipment
 - Electric vehicle chargers



Massachusetts

Base Code

Stretch Code

Specialized Code

Base, Stretch, and Specialized – 3 Options

Base Code (IECC 2021)

- 51 communities

10th Edition MA code from
BBRS:

**Effective date:
Estimate Jan 2024**

Stretch Code (2023 update)

- 300 communities

Effective dates:

Residential : Jan 2023

Commercial: July 2023

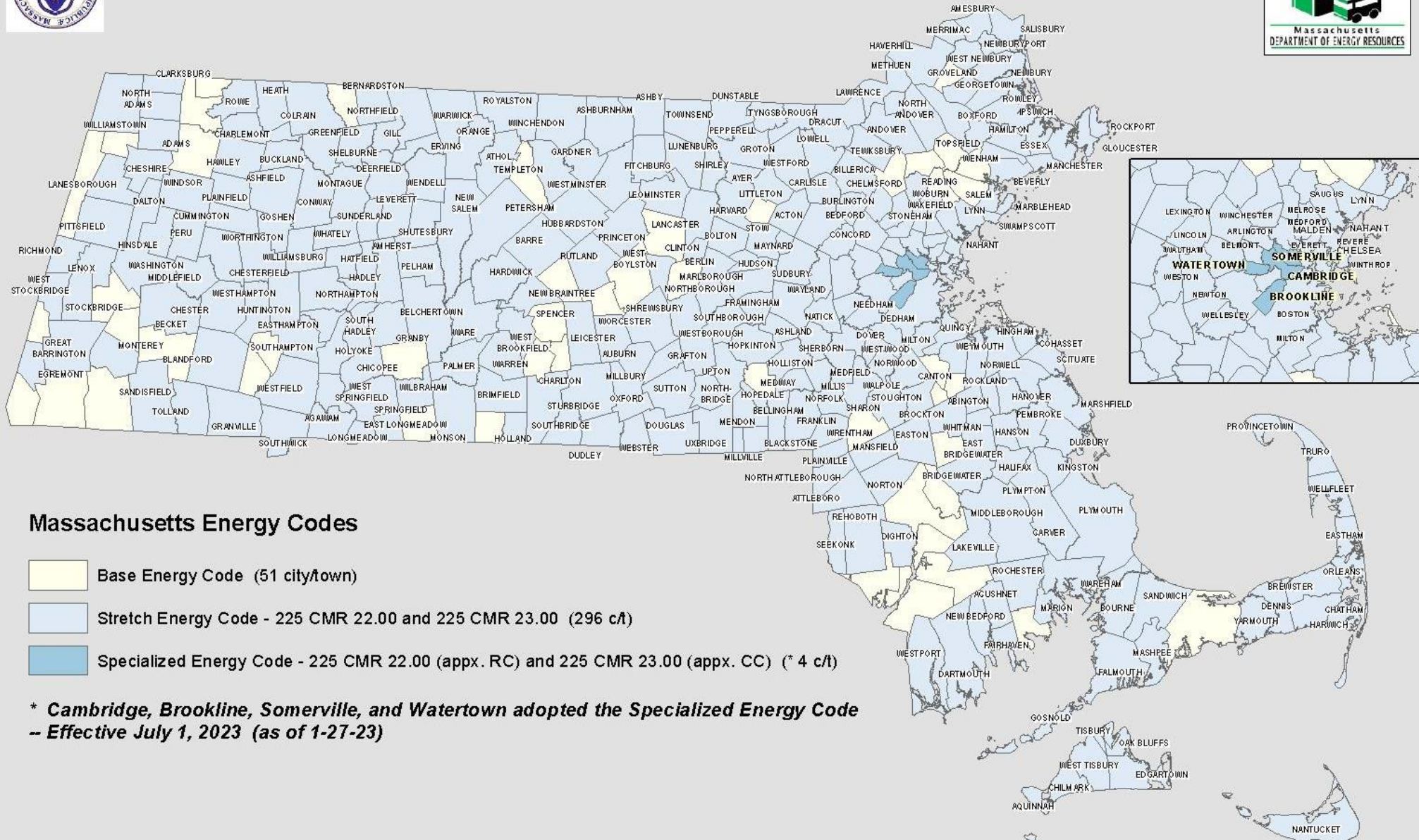
Specialized Code ("Net-Zero")

- 5 communities (to date)

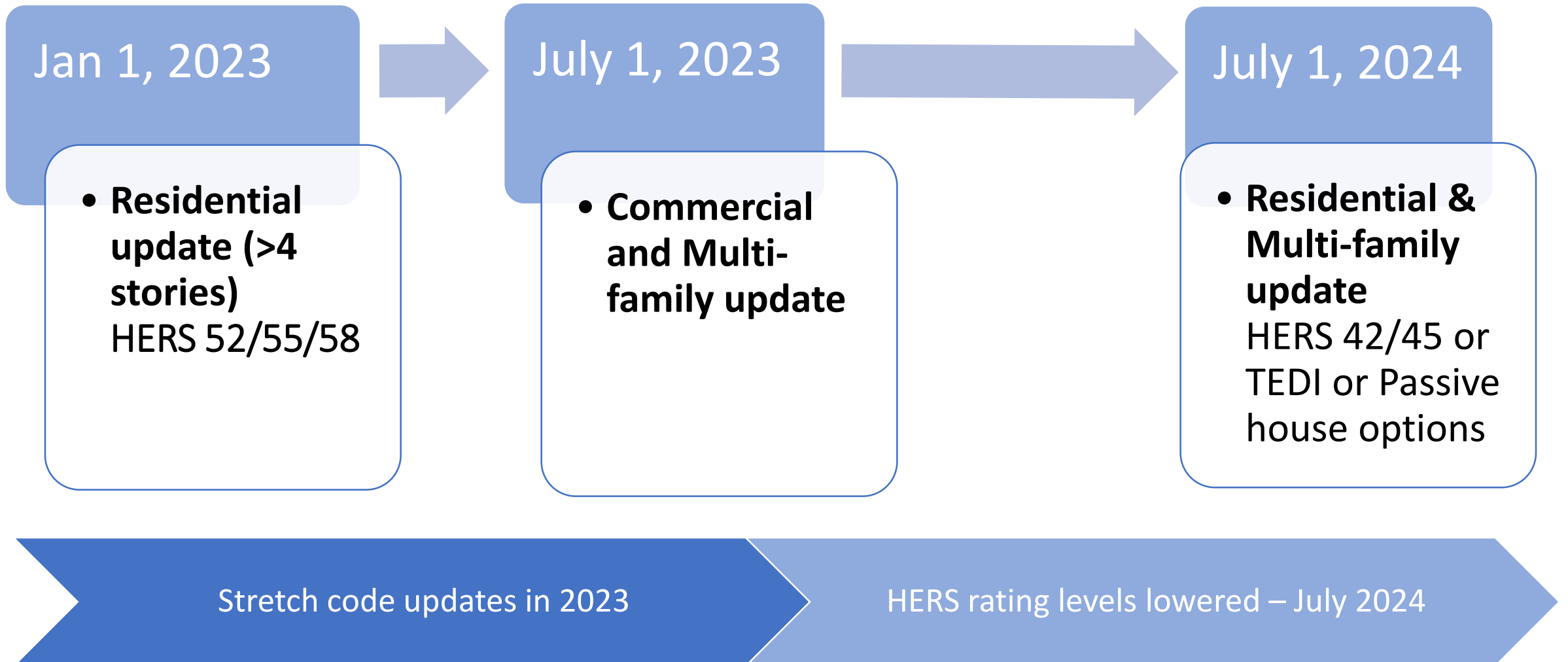
- **Effective date:
Jan 1st or July 1st**

Recommend 6-11 months
after Town/City vote

Massachusetts Building Energy Code Adoption by Municipality

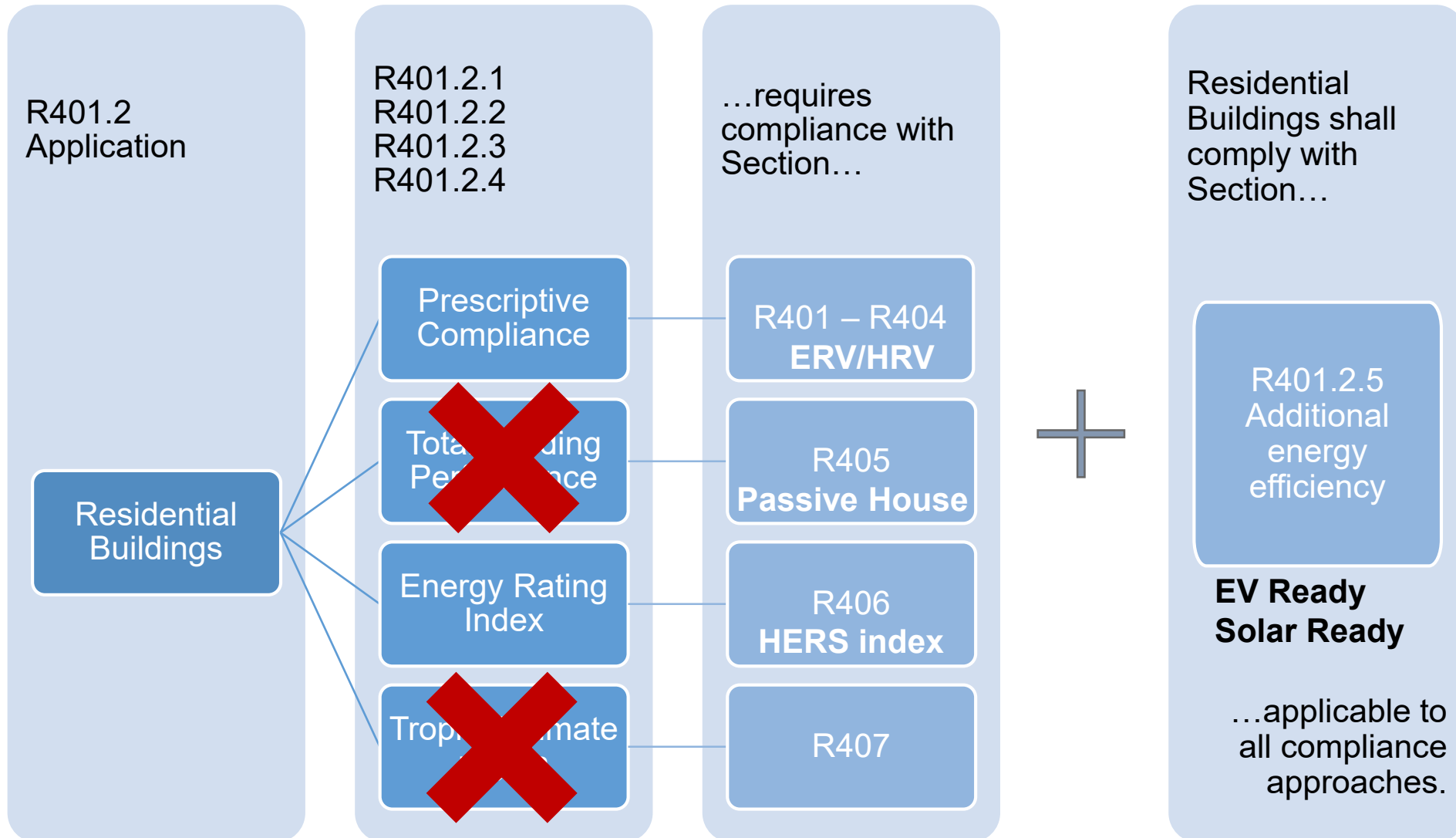


Timeline: Stretch code update

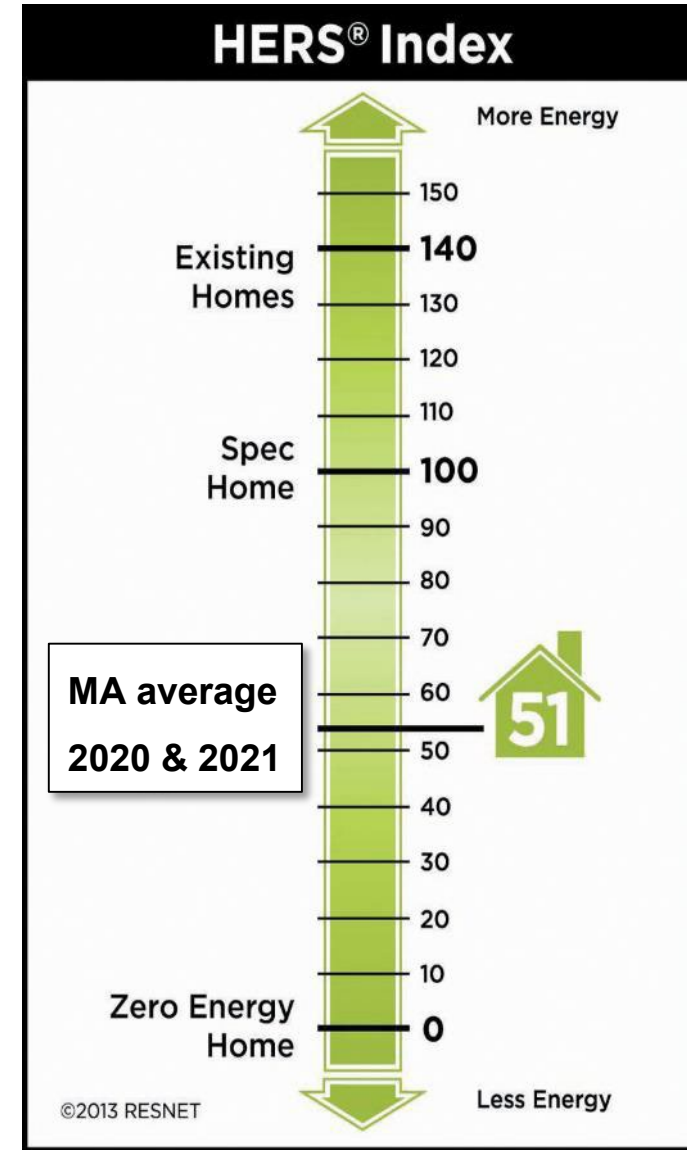
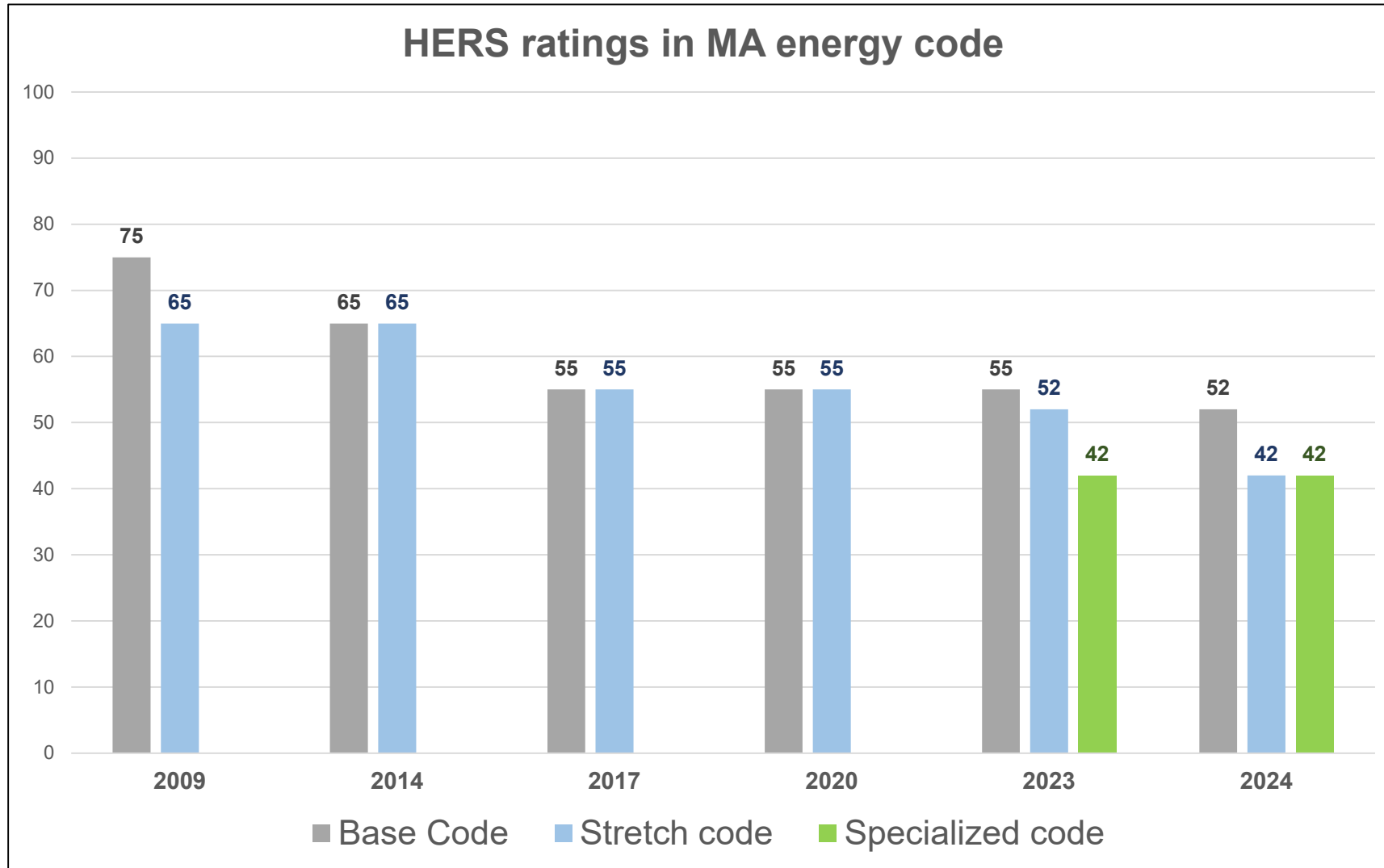


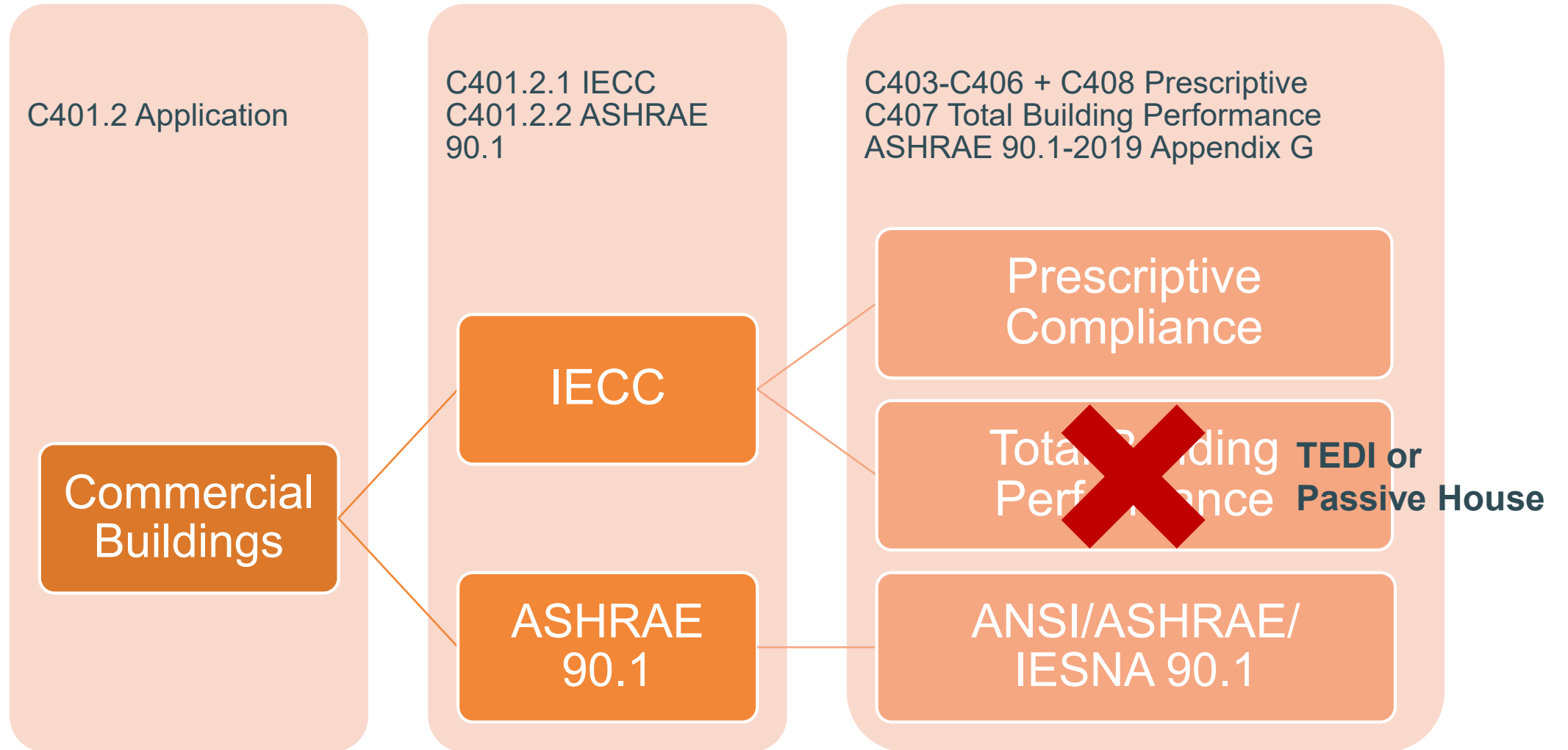
Compliance Pathways – MA Stretch code

Residential



(Simplified) History of HERS ratings in MA energy code





Thermal Energy Demand Intensity (TEDI)

Stretch code now directly regulates heating and cooling demand for office, muni buildings, schools, and residential buildings:

Heating TEDI

Total annual energy **delivered to the** building for space conditioning and conditioning of ventilation air, normalized by area (kBtu/sf-yr)

Cooling TEDI

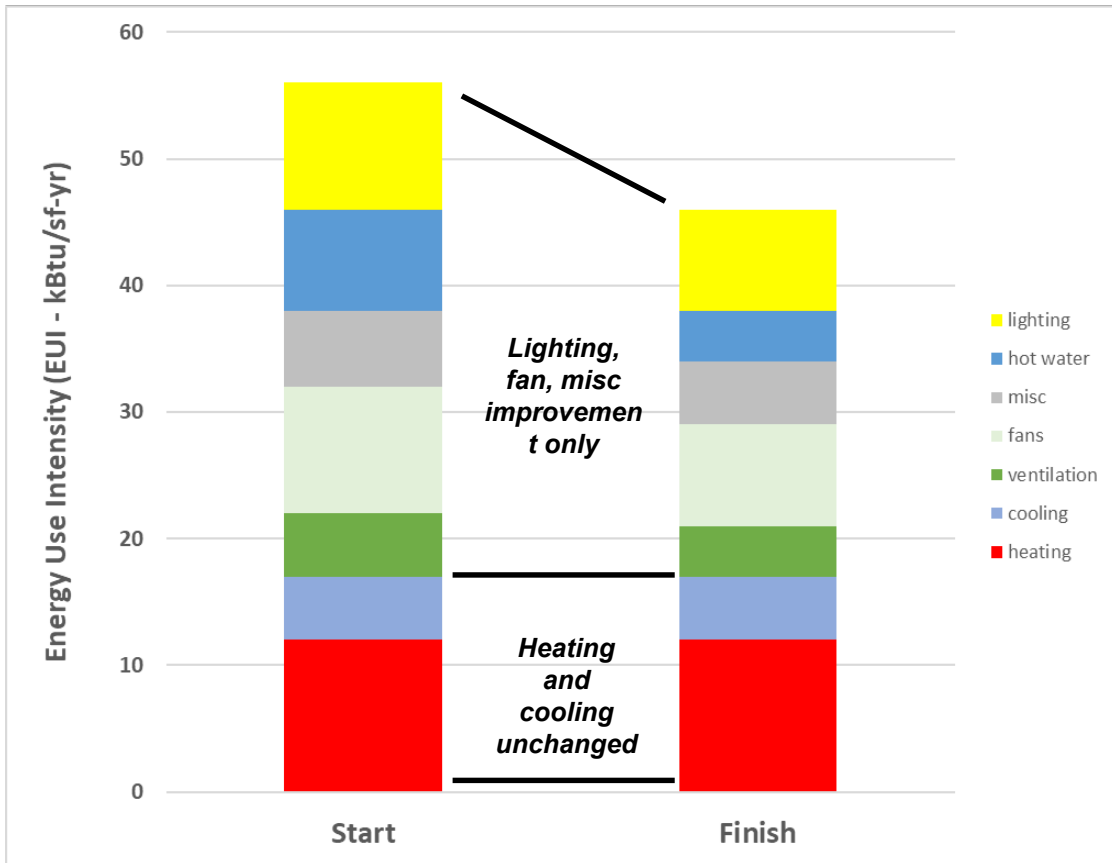
Total annual energy **removed from the** building for space conditioning and conditioning of ventilation air, normalized by area (kBtu/sf-yr)



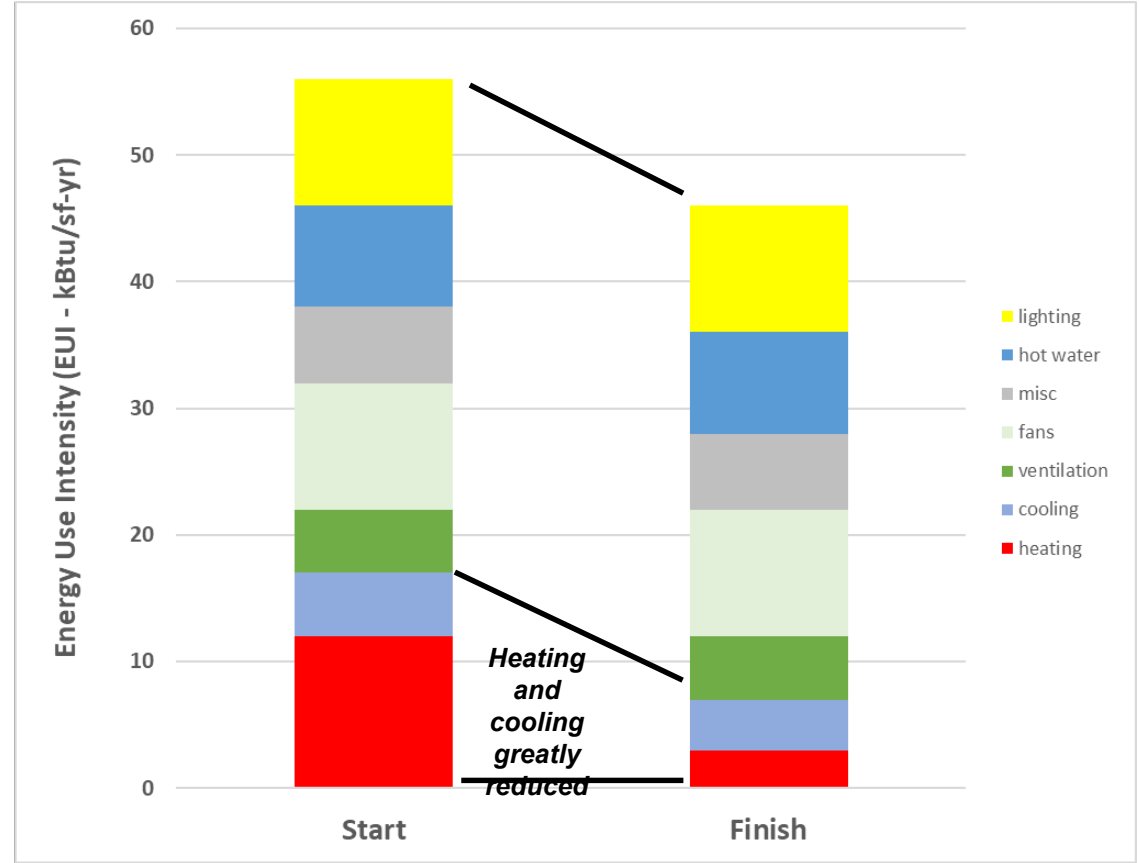
Important: even though they have the same units, TEDI is not the same as energy use intensity (EUI)

TEDI is demand while EUI is consumption

Why we TEDI?



**Focus on total energy reduction:
 Heating and cooling unchanged**



**Focus on TEDI:
 Better envelope, air infiltration, external shading, lower emissions**

**A focus on total energy reduction does not necessarily yield better buildings.
 A focus on TEDI more directly yields better buildings.**

Why we TEDI?



Resilience



***Electrification
and emissions***



***Comfort and
durability***

TEDI focus and regulating thermal demands ensures designers prioritize envelope performance which helps ensure buildings that are resilient, easy to electrify, lower emissions, comfortable, and durable.

Other Key Modifications



Envelope backstop

Add'l stringency



Tenant spaces

Treated like new construction



Electrification of space heating

Highly ventilated: partial
Highly glazed: full



Mixed-use

Treat each use independently

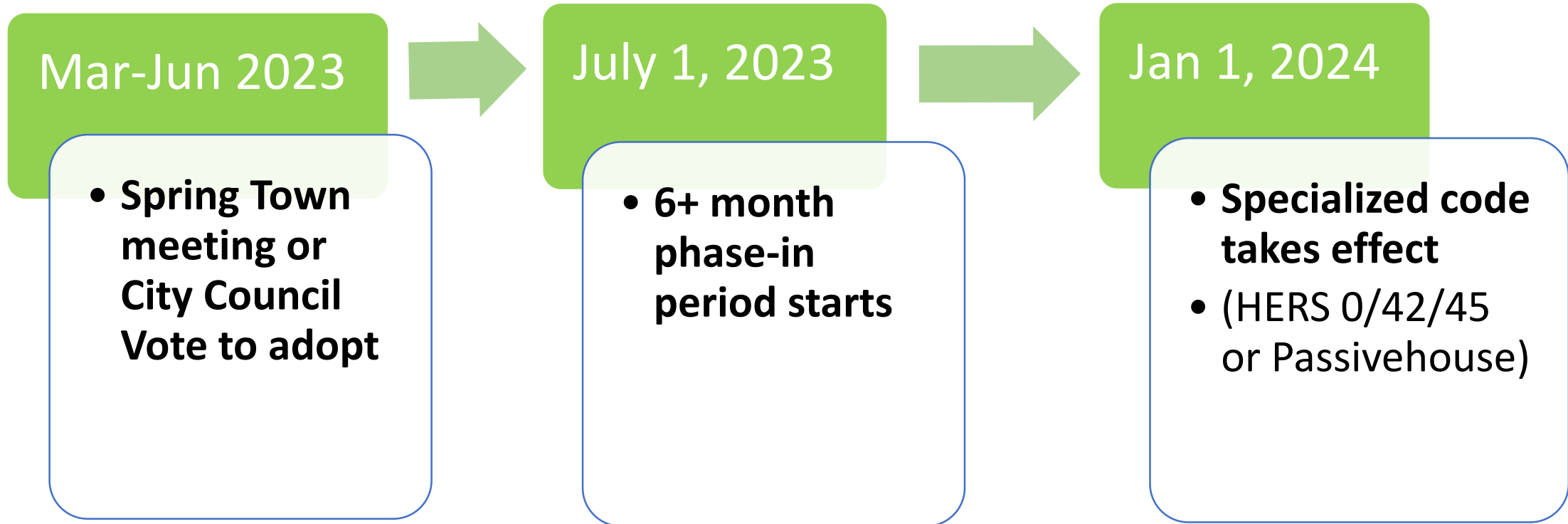


EV ready parking

Wire 20% of new Business & Residential spaces
Wire 10% of spaces for other uses

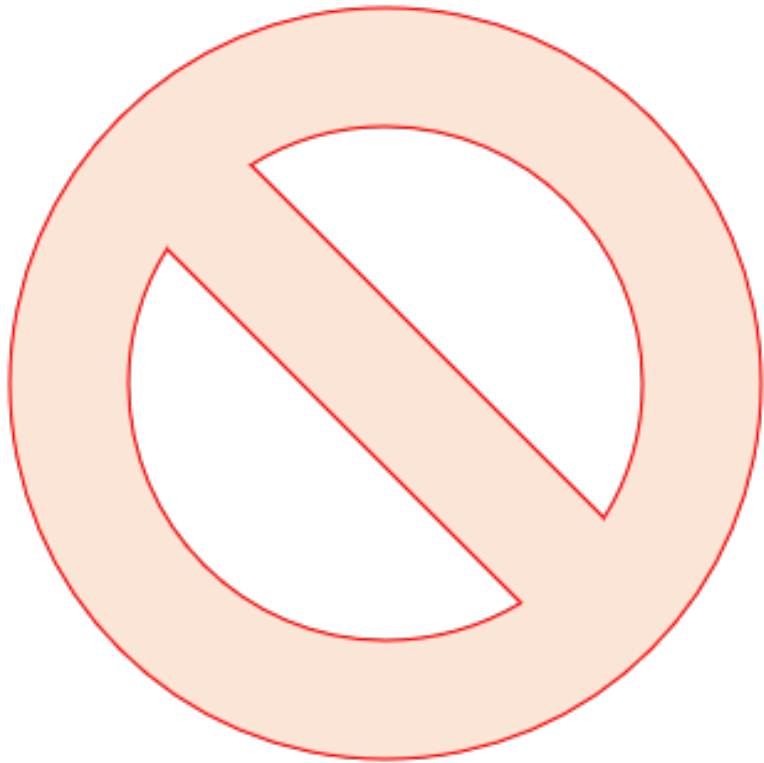
Opt-in Specialized Energy Code

Specialized local adoption – Recommended timeline



4 early adopter Cities effective July 1, 2023

Next group adoption effective Jan 1, 2024



What is NOT in:

- A ban on the use of fossil fuels
- Embodied carbon accounting

What is in:

- Mandate for solar PV if using fossil fuels
- Mandate for electric EV chargers in all MA energy code options
- Mandate for prewiring for future electric uses

Areas of “readiness”



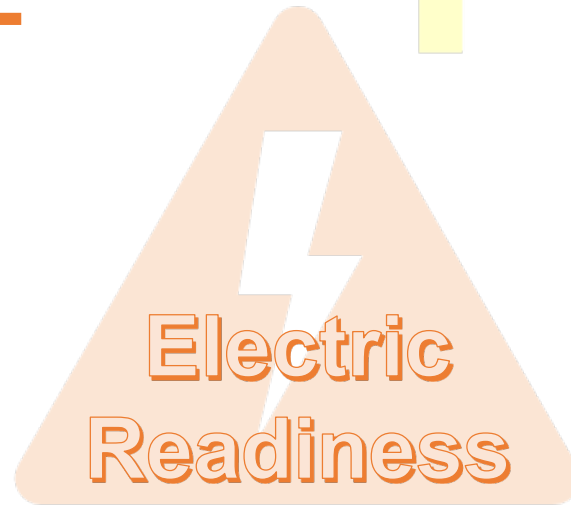
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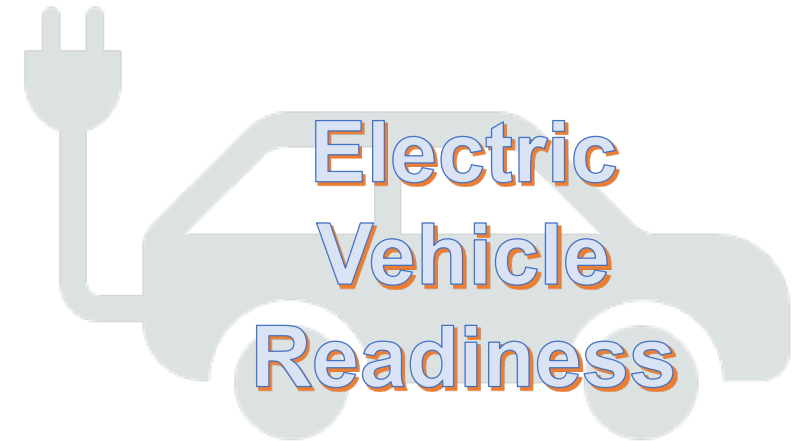
Solar
Readiness



~~Demand-
response
DHW~~



Electric
Readiness



Electric
Vehicle
Readiness

Beyond Code

PHIUS



					Renewable Energy to Get to Zero
				Electrification Readiness	No Fossil-Fuel Combustion On-Site
				Electric Vehicle Readiness	Electric Vehicle Readiness
				Balanced Ventilation HRV/ERV	Balanced Ventilation HRV/ERV
				SOLAR READY ALWAYS	SOLAR READY ALWAYS
SOLAR READY Depends on climate					
Eff. Comps. & H ₂ O Distrib				Eff. Comps. & H ₂ O Distrib	Eff. Comps. & H ₂ O Distrib
EPA Indoor airPLUS VI	EPA Indoor airPLUS VI	EPA Indoor airPLUS VI	EPA Indoor airPLUS VI	EPA Indoor airPLUS VI	EPA Indoor airPLUS VI
Ducts in Condit. Space				Ducts in Condit. Space	Ducts in Condit. Space
HVAC QI w/WHV	HVAC QI w/WHV	HVAC QI w/WHV	HVAC QI w/WHV	Micro-load HVAC QI	Micro-load HVAC QI
Water Management	Water Management	Water Management	Water Management	Water Management	Water Management
Independent HERS Verification	Independent HERS Verification	Independent HERS Verification	Independent HERS Verification	Independent HERS Verification	Independent HERS Verification
IECC 2012 Enclosure	IECC 2012 Enclosure	IECC 2012 Enclosure	IECC 2015/18 Encl./ES Win.	Ultra-Efficient Enclosure	Ultra-Efficient Enclosure
HERS 70-80	HERS 60-70	HERS 50-60	HERS 35-45	HERS 30-40	HERS < 0
IECC 2012	ENERGY STAR v3	ENERGY STAR v3.1	ZERO ZERH	phius CORE	phius ZERO



RESIDENTIAL

Low Rise & Multi-family

Specialized vs Stretch code - Residential Low-Rise

Energy Source(s)	Home Size	Stretch code (July 2024)	Specialized Code (Jan 2024)
All Electric New Homes	Any Size home	HERS 45 or Passivehouse	
Mixed-Fuel New Homes	Under 4,000 sq ft	HERS 42	+Solar PV (min 4kw) + wiring for electrification
	4,000 sq ft and over	HERS 42	+ Solar PV (to net-zero) + wiring for electrification
	Any	Passivehouse option	+ wiring for electrification
Home additions & alternations	Any	Same as Stretch code	
Historic or Existing homes	Any	Energy Code not applicable	

Specialized Residential Code: Solar PV sizing

Solar required where there is a suitable solar-roof zone of 300 sq ft or more



Home Type	Solar required
All-electric	No
Passivehouse	No
Mixed-fuel <4,000 sq ft	4 kW
Mixed-fuel 4,000 sq ft +	Enough for net-zero (8+ kw)
other R-uses	0.75 W/sq ft (50% of commercial)

Specialized vs Stretch code – Multi-family

Building Type	Fuel Type	Stretch code (July 2024)	Specialized Code (Jan 2024)
New Multi-family (4+ stories & over 12,000 sf)	All Electric	HERS 45 or TEDI or Passivehouse	Passivehouse
	Mixed Fuel	HERS 42 or TEDI or Passivehouse	Passivehouse + wiring for electrification

Incentives

Federal 45L Tax Credit + Mass Save®

- Inflation Reduction Act
- 01/01/2023 – 12/31/2032 extended for 10 years
- The entity that financed the project claims the credit



/ Home



/ Dwelling Unit



/ Dwelling Units
Prevailing Wage



All-Electric
Single Family

Passive House
Multi-Family

Passive House
Multi-Family

\$ 15,000

\$ 3,000

\$ 3,000



\$ 5,000

\$ 1,000

\$ 5,000

Specialized vs Stretch code – Commercial

Building Type	Fuel Type	Stretch code (July 2024)	Specialized Code (Jan 2024)
Schools, Offices, Municipal buildings	All Electric	TEDI or Passivehouse	
	Mixed Fuel	TEDI or Passivehouse	TEDI + Solar PV or Passivehouse + wiring for electrification
Other Commercial (over 20,000 sf)	All Electric	ASHRAE or TEDI or Passivehouse	
	Mixed Fuel	ASHRAE or TEDI or Passivehouse	ASHRAE + Solar or TEDI + Solar or Passivehouse + wiring for electrification

Thank you!

Questions?



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